Now, they were certainly ~~pure~~ Carb. of Baryta & the crystals must have been pure Earth - What do you say to it. -
The Nitrate I got from Cozzens in New York

A H Holmes
March 19th

Recd. Apr 14th
with a package of plants
carried by Mr Holmes from
~~the~~ Albany S. Boat —

Ansd. M. 21st
1827

Dr. John Torrey
Prof. of Chemistry & Mineralogy
West Point
N. Y.

Montreal May 12. 1827. –

My Dear Sir.

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE HERBARIUM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Your answer to my communication I rec^d and am glad to find you have been pleased with the packet – I have just rec^d notice that my brother leaves this for N. Y. and being much hurried, I shall confine myself to desiring your assistance in deciphering some of my mineralogical hieroglyphics – I have a good many small specimens which I am not certain about & would be desirous of your naming for me – Some can not afford more than a very small piece for examination: and I am afraid I expect too much nicety of eye from you, in sending such minute pieces: However if you find them unintelligible, it will have produced no bad result and at least I shall have the satisfaction of knowing they have undergone the scrutiny of an experienced eye By the bye, the parcel you rec^d was sent on shore by my brother (not the same who carries this) but

he was mistaken in supposing he had another letter - The letter was inclosed in the parcel ~
How am I to distinguish Gray Wacke from Greenstone & from Conglomerate - I suppose the division very arbitrary — I should like to have a well marked specimen of it and another of Gray Wacke slate.
I send you a few pieces of a rock very common in this neighbourhood in rolled pieces which is made up of grains of the size of peas or less cemented by a substance more liable to disintegrate - The little globular masses have facets, are compact, melt without great difficulty into a black Glass - in all which characters they resemble Coccolite but they differ in appearance looking very like Basalt and are scratched by the knife - When the cement does not disintegrate, the grains are less distinct & it appears sometimes nearly compact - I do not find any account of such a rock in the books: it might be a puddingstone if the grains were of other matter - indeed it is here called plum puddingstone. Altho' I do not think it Coccolite, I should like to know some distinguishing character besides that fallacious one of color. — While talking of distinctions, what decisive characters distinguish Augite, since it is white & black & melts into white & black Glasses - Really it is perplexing.

I have sent another mineral which I look upon as a var. of hornblend but I find the Augite or Sahlite just as easily fused as it, altho' a difference in this respect is given as a character - I first supposed it Augite and could perceive nothing to distinguish ~~them~~ it but its less hardness: I have a crystal of Augite from Europe with which I compared it as well as with your Sahlite I send a most minute piece of what I supposed might be Chlorite - I doubt whether you can determine from it - It is from Scotland - Also a small piece of what I think Splintery Hornstone — The others I shall mark —

I hope you will excuse the trouble I give you and impute it to my desire to perfect myself in a difficult study & one in which you are so well qualified to give assistance - My brother will be only 2 or 3 days in N.Y. and if you can do it, I wish you would send an answer by him, directing to Benj. Holmes Esq ~~at~~ ~~at~~ to the care of R Wadsworth, Franklin Street - This will save postage but besides it will give you an opportunity of forwarding me two or three specimens, such as Chlorite, Graywacke &c. —

Believe me Yours truly

A. F. Holmes

I have heard lately from Greville - He has proposed me as M.W.S. & tells me I shall be elected next meeting

ESPOND
REPERTORIUM
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

I have also put into the packet a piece of Jasper which from its lustre I at first supposed might be allied to red ox of zinc or to Titanite - Upon trying its sp. gr. I found it the same as Jasper - I wish you would tell me whether it is only Jasper -

I wish you would send me a good sp. of Pyrola elliptica and another of P. rotundifolia as I have some difficulty in knowing whether we have them both here. -

Could you send a piece of what you called Nematite of Nuttall - resembling Asbest--

Dr Torrey —

March May 16 1827

Dr Sir

My brother was obliged to postpone his departure for a few days, an occurrence of which I am very glad since it will enable me to send you what I thought I should never have been able to do viz a named list of the Mosses which I sent to Greville in 1825 & of which I sent you specimens last year. The parcel containing this list with other things, it appears from G. was sent to Glasgow to be forwarded to me last spring in April 1826 - I however heard nothing of it and had given it up for lost but a day or two ago to my great surprise I found a parcel brought me by one of the vessels just arrived to be the identical parcel so long missing - I do not recollect whether I sent you all the Mosses I sent G. - but I shall transcribe his list, the Nos being the same in those you have

A. F. Holmes
May 12 & 16th
1827.

Recd. May 22nd
with a package of minls.

Dr Torrey —

List of Mosses &c. sent to Dr Torrey in 1826 being duplicates of those sent to Dr. Greville in 1825 and named by him.—

No
35. Sphagnum acutifolium
41 Dicranum Scoparium
28 Hyp. Blandovii barren & Bry. ventricosum in fruit
40 Hyp. Schreberi
5 is barren but Dr G. thinks it the same
55. Bryum roseum — it is very rare.—
11 Hyp. Crista Castrensis
23 Bry. palustre
4 Jungermannia trilobata
32 Bryum nutans mixed with Dicranum glaucum
33 Tetraphis pellucida mixed with Hyp. cupressiforme
36 Hyp. splendens
1 Bryum ventricosum
47 — punctatum
13 is a state of Hyp. triquetrum
53 Hyp. Schreberi
10 Do Do.
2 Neckera pennata (barren
17 Hyp. proliferum
49. — . —
12 — cordifolium
18 Dicranum glaucum

No.
3 Leskea rostrata
15. Hyp. dendroides (barren
48. – triquetrum . d:
43 Polytrichum commune – var.
45 Bryum ciliare – right. –
7 Neckera minor – Schwag.
21 Hyp. riparium
19. Funaria flavicans
29 – near aduncum – it may turn out new
30 Hyp. denticulatum??
27 – [illegible]ifolium
23 – chrysophyllum Bridel
5. Jungermannia anomala?
6. ——— serpyllifolia
44 Hypnum riparium
50 Funaria flavicans
24. same as 29.
6 Hypnum stellatum . var
51. — reptile
26 Dicranum – no fruit –

Montreal March 22. 1828. –

My Dear Sir. –

I have waited with much impatience to hear from you in answer to my letters and still finding myself deprived of your acknowledgement I cannot resist the desire I feel again to call your attention to your quondam guest – I am much afraid I have unwittingly committed some mistake or been too troublesome at an improper moment or perhaps have asked for what I had no right to expect, but whether I have transgressed in one or other of these ways, I hereby crave pardon and forgiveness and that you would again condescend to favor me with your countenance – One thing I may say and it is this, that I seek no more than your correspondence and direction in pursuing my studies; that if I have asked for specimens frequently to which my returns were not commensurate, the fault was your own by teaching me the way of asking and by being so munificent at first – I should never have taken amiss a refusal to a request as I am pretty well aware such refusal would arise only from it not being convenient to accede to it – Your kindness formerly makes it a puzzle to me, why I have not heard from you and leads me to suppose ~~that~~ my letters may ~~have~~ been some way or other mislaid or lost. – It certainly cannot be much of a labor for you to name a specimen who are so well acquainted with the appearances of all, so that I cannot attribute your silence to want of time entirely tho' I have no doubt you are fully employed. Still, as I had particularly requested –

an answer in a short time, - I do believe you would have gratified me if you could - The reason why I wished particularly for an answer to my queries about the minerals was that they were sent me by one of the Engineer officers on the Rideau Canal on the promise that if I could not name them myself I should get them named for him. - I have a few more which I shall send if I hear that you do not consider it too great a trouble to look at them & name them - One of these is a transparent crystd. mineral which is fusible with intumescence - the form 4 sided prism, acuminated at each end & variously truncated - It appears to me to come nearest Scapolite altho' its Sp. Gr. is 3·2 or more. I sent you a small parcel in Augt and another at the beginning of the year and I wrote you also at the beginning of Feby. - I have many questions to ask but shall forbear at present lest I should put you out of patience - I shall send by the first opportunity a copy of the laws of our Society and the diploma as soon as we get it. It has been waiting for two months past in New york for an opportunity. I got the last No. of the Annals the other day only and find Dekay is still one of the officers. Therefore I suppose he must be returned - Do you expect to be able to get away next summer - if you do I hope you will bend your way northward.

Hoping you will soon gratify me by the sight of your well known characters - I am Yours truly

A. F. Holmes

Single – paid

Dr. John Torrey
Prof. of Chemistry & Botany at
the College of Physns & Surgns.
New York

MONTREAL
22 MAR 28

Dr. Holmes
March 22d 1828

Montreal May 10. 1831—

Dear Sir

After the lapse of nearly a year I make another attempt to obtain from you some information relative to the Arkansas mission and to the share of the spoil which should belong to our Society – I know the many calls upon your time but as it was the credit of your name which induced me to recommend a subscription and as you were the person to whom as tacitly acting as our agent, the money was transmitted, you surely cannot think it strange that we are desirous of obtaining some account of the undertaking – If it had turned out unsuccessful altogether, we should have nothing more to do than to put up with the loss and to be wiser for the future but knowing from good authority that some proceeds have been received, you cannot surely be surprized at our desire to know what has become of them and at my having so often addressed yourself upon the subject, you being the person specially designated in the advertisement as being a conductor of the undertaking — Nay more, you must allow me to say, that I conceive you are bound in common propriety to complete a bargain which you had commenced; as you received value for a certain amount of return upon certain condition: that is, that the adventure should turn out successful — As it had so far, that certain proceeds were received, you are I conceive under obligation to notify the subscribers, even if that should be the whole of your bond, leaving it to them to take the proper steps to recover their share — however ungracious it might be to take their money and leave them to find out a way of getting their value for it. I hope you will not think I make use of strong language or if so, that you will excuse it from my having so repeatedly attempted to get an answer from you. — I shall be satisfied by hearing your explanation even if it should turn out that we are to lose our money, as we then shall be relieved from any expectation. —

With best wishes for your health & prosperity

Yours very truly

A. F. Holmes

TORREY CORRESPON
HERBARIU
MBIA UNIVE

Dr Torrey

Dr. A. F. Holmes
May 10th – 1831
Ans.d March 1st 1832 –
– very offensive –

49 Charlton St –

John Torrey M.D.
Profr. of Chemistry & Bot.y
College of Phys.ns & Surg.ns
Newyork

NEW-YORK
MAY

No 8.

Recd. ~~No~~ Dec: 13th 1837.

Montreal
Nov: 28 1837 -

LIBRARY
NEW YORK
BOTANICAL
GARDEN.

Dear Sir

I have received yours of 15th — making inquiry of a packet addressed to Prof. Daubeny — I am sorry to have to tell you that I have heard or seen nothing of it — I made inquiry at the post office but they know nothing about it. —

You will hear from the papers that we are in a state of revolution — There have been two or three small actions between the troops and the insurgents — in the last the latter sustained great loss and it is supposed matters will be much quieter — Notwithstanding the city is kept in a state of daily alarm — All the English population are armed and turn out with great readiness & alacrity — Every precaution is taking to prevent any evil happening to the city — Our military force is far too small but we de-

from the J. J. Crooke Collection

Given by A. M. VAIL. MAR 4 191

pend a good deal on Upper Canada for assistance. — Nearly all other occupations but those of a military nature are given up — Of course scientific occupations would follow the rest but in as far as regards myself I may say I have already abandoned it to devote myself more exclusively to my profession — Our lectures at McGill College were suspended last winter & there appears no present probability of their being resumed — So you see I am no longer one of you — I saw DeKay at Buffalo last summer having gone on a journey in pursuit of health & I am happy I can say I feel much better since — I am glad to find you continue so enthusiastic in your botany. Your work must be of great service — I have almost forgotten my Botany, it being 14 or 15 years since I have done much in it — My attention latterly was more turned

to minerals but after amassing a very
handsome collection, that also I have nearly
put aside — and I doubt whether unless
circumstances should alter I shall ever
again engage in that or any other pur-
suit distinct from my medicine —
— Sic transit &c. —
With best wishes Yours truly

A. F. Holmes

Novr 29. I have delayed closing
this letter that I might make inquiry
of Mr McCord who was much with Prof. D.
while in Nat. — but he also knows nothing
of the packet. —

2/4

Paid to Lines

PAID

John Torrey M.D.
Prof. of Chy & Boty
College of Phys. & Surgeons
New York

MONTREAL
1837
L.C.

Montreal May 4 1840

My Dear Sir

I am induced to send you the accompanying specimen in consequence of the representation of a young Gentleman who is rather enthusiastic in his love of Botany Mr McCrae whom I believe you know — He tells me you are preparing for publication that part of your great work which contains the Pyrola, & that the specimen I send is uncommon — I never found but the one in July 1822 at the Portage des Grès - River St Maurice near Three Rivers - I looked on it as the perfect P. asarifolia, never having seen a specimen with the leaves crenate - you will know - If you should think it uncommon you are at liberty to retain it but if not I beg you will return it to my brother in law Mr Wm Wadsworth - office St Jones lane - as I have no other similar specimen and altho' I have long separated myself from Botany, yet I wish to retain my herbarium in as complete a state as possible —

When you write me will you be so good as inform me what paste you use for sticking on numbers or labels on Minerals, least likely to fall off — It is so long since I heard for from you that I know little more than of your public engagements — After some years abeyance, McGill College has been set on foot again & during the last winter I have lectured on Chemistry which has in some degree revived my fast expiring scientific predilections — Whether it is to be continued or not is not certain —

Hoping yourself & family are in the enjoyment of God's blessings both spiritual & bodily

I remain my Dear Sir
Yours truly
A. F. Holmes

Montreal
Aug 3 1857

My Dear Sir

I have just received your agreeable note & am quite glad to have the prospect of again meeting you — Mrs Holmes desires me to say she will be ready to welcome Miss T. should she accompany you.

I believe you have already had an invitation from the Local Com^tee but to prevent mistakes, I send you another

Yours truly

A. F. Holmes

J Torrey Esq
&c &c